The need to properly manage our land resources for sustainable development is, however, well recognized. Government of India has formulated comprehensive schemes/programmes on watershed development for control of soil erosion and land degradation in the country. The various Watershed Development Programmes being implemented are (i) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA), (ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Land in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR), (iii) Reclamation of Alkali Soil (RAS), (iv) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA), (v) Externally Aided Projects (EAPs) on Watershed Development, (vi) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), (vii) Desert Development Programme, (viii) Integrated Waste-land Development Programme (IWDP) and (ix) National Afforestation & Eco-Development Project Schemes (NAEPS).

National Research Centre for Pomegranate

1964. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to establish a National Research Centre for Pomegranate at Solapur in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) A National Research Centre on Pomegranate (NRCP) has already been established by the Indian Council of Agricultral Research at Shelgi, Solapur (Maharashtra) and has started functioning thereon for conducting basic, strategic and applied research for increasing production.

Unified Research

†1965. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no growth in the fields of

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.